

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Orwell Village Council

REGULAR Meeting

Date: February 18, 2025

Council President Ruks called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Clerk-Finance Director Kim McKinley performed roll call and the following council members were present: Mr. Cottrell, Ms. Cozad, Mr. Denihan, Mr. Hartz and Mr. Ruks.

Others Present: Village Manager Tami Pentek, Police Chief Chad Fernandez, Fire Chief Scott Merlino, W/S Supervisor John Sency, Street L/B Supervisor Shane Gregory and Zoning Inspector Bellas.

Agenda: Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad – yea, Denihan – yea, Hartz – yea, Ruks - yea, Cottrell – yea. Motion passed.

Public: Dylan Crowell and Connor Ball, Gazette and Warren Dillaway, Star Beacon.

Minutes: Mr. Cottrell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting held on January 21, 2025. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan - yea, Hartz - yea, Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad - yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on February 11, 2025. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz – yea, Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yes, Denihan – yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to approve the minutes from the work session held on February 11, 2025. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks - yea, Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yes, Denihan – yea, Hartz – yea. Motion passed.

Bills: Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to approve the payment of bills. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell - yea, Cozad – yea, Denihan - yea, Hartz – yea, Ruks - yea. Motion passed.

SCAD: Mr. Hartz read his written report, provided to council, on a meeting held on February 10, 2025. Report includes monthly financial information and call numbers. SCAD received recognition from Ashtabula County Commissioners for 50 year of service. Next meeting scheduled for March 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Streets/Lands & Buildings: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided council. The department order 23 tons of salt in December, 50 tons in January and an additional 50 tons this month. Mr. Gregory said cold patch will be put down on roads weather permitting. Additional road repairs may be addressed after funding is determined for Penniman paving project. Ms. Cozad inquired about the possibility of adding turn lanes at the SR 45/SR 322 intersection. Lane width and length would need to fit within ROW; removal of parking lanes may be necessary.

Water/ Sewer: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Wellfield abandonment is scheduled to begin next week. Mr. Sency will be the contact for the completion of the water tower/ PVR project and the hydrant replacement.

Police Department: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Sgt. Bonfield has completed range qualification instructor training; he will need to qualify rifle/shotgun in the fall. Chief Fernandez reported that the department received new AED from SCAD.

Fire Department: Mrs. Pentek read information from written report provided to council. Water tank has been repaired on engine. Rosenbauer still need to address repainting and striping of doors on tanker. Ice water rescue training completed in January. Ms. Cozad inquired about Facebook page. Chief Merlino reported that the VFD deleted FB page in lieu of limiting/restricting comments on page. Mr. Ruks suggested adding disclaimer.

Park and Recreation: Meeting minutes attached. Hanging baskets will replace deteriorated planters. Board will explore other locations for holiday decorations; lot availability is a concern.

Planning & Zoning Commission: Meeting minutes attached.

Solicitor's report: Solicitor Newcomb submitted a written report.

Finance Report: Ms. McKinley provided a summary of the submitted January reports. In addition, she reported that the credit card expenditures for 2024 was \$6,084.86; rebate of \$61.00 was received in January. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to approve the finance report. The motion passed with all in favor.

Zoning: Mr. Bellas provided a written report for the month of January. Property located at 26 Grand Valley Avenue will be demolished by owner. The garage located on a separate parcel will be repaired. Two violation cases are pending in court. Four other cases will be referred to solicitor.

Old Business:

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-02: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VI: SIGNS OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-03: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IV: DIMENSIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-04: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IX: ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01-05: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XIV: DEFINITIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL ZONING CODE AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd Reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-02-01: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROVING THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL AND THE ASHTABULA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz – yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Ordinance 25-02-01. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-02-02: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE INSURANCE PROPOSAL AND RENEWAL WITH LOVE INSURANCE FOR PROVIDING PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND DECELARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz – yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Ordinance 25-02-02. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-02-03R: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT A NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT IN THE SUM OF \$1,715.00 AND NOT DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to pass Resolution 25-02-03R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-02-04R: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATE BY THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL FISCAL OFFICER FOR THE PAYMENT OF \$17,103.00 TO R.E. BURROWS DRILLING FOR SERVICES RENDERED AT THE VILLAGE SEWER PLANT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz – yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 25-02-04R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-02-05R: AN AMENDED RESOLUTION RETAINING CHRISTOPHER M. NEWCOMB, ESQ. AS THE SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE ORWELL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz – yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to pass Resolution 25-02-05R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-02-06R: A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOSHUA GRIGUS TO THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT AS A FULL-TIME OFFICER EFFECTIVE UPON COMPLETION OF MANDATED TESTING AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz – yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cozad, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Denihan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 25-02-06R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-02-07R: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE A WORK AUTHORIZATION FOR CT CONSULTANTS, A VERDANTAS COMPANY FOR THE STORMWATER MASTER PLANNING PROGRAM, STEP 1 BASE MAP, FOR THE VILLAGE OF ORWELL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass as an emergency. Roll call, 5 yeas: Denihan-yea, Hartz – yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea. Motion passed. Mr. Hartz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cottrell, to waive the three-reading rule. Roll call, 5 yeas: Hartz-yea, Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea. Motion passed. Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to pass Resolution 25-02-07R. Roll Call, 5 yeas: Ruks-yea, Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed.

New Business:

A public meeting on the zoning amendments is scheduled for March 11, 2025 at 4:15 p.m.

Public: None


Media: None

Executive Session: Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, to go into executive session with just Council, to consider real estate acquisition or property sale, with no action to follow. Roll call, 5 yeas: Cottrell-yea, Cozad-yea, Ruks-yea, Denihan-yea, Hartz-yea. Motion passed. Council entered executive session at 5:14 Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hartz, to adjourn executive session. The motion passed with all in favor. Council exited executive session at 6:35 p.m.

Ms. Cozad made a motion, seconded by Mr. Denihan to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all in favor. Meeting adjourned 6:40 p.m.

Approved:

March 18, 2025



President of Council

Clerk of Council

Village Manager